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COMMANDERS DIGEST

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Secretary McNamara Orders 'Freeze' on DOD Contracts

Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara has instituted a "freeze" which places limitations on awarding military construction contracts "because of the uncertain state of federal finances."

Exempted are projects clearly associated with new weapons systems or in direct support of Southeast Asian programs, "which may be approved for earlier opening."

In an Oct. 9 memo to service secretaries, Mr. McNamara made immediately effective these actions:

- For all projects on which bids have been opened on or before Oct. 9, awards shall be consummated under normal procedures.
- For projects on which bids had not been opened Oct. 9, opening date was postponed until at least Nov. 9.
- No new invitations for bids are to be issued except for projects clearly associated with new weapons systems or in direct support of Southeast Asia.
- Any other exceptions must be recommended by a service secretary and referred to Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Nitze or Secretary McNamara for appoval on an individual basis.

Army Schedules April Modification Of Officer Efficiency Reports

Army's current officer efficiency reporting system will be modified effective April 1 "to permit selection boards and assignment officers to identify more readily and accurately the officer's true performance and value to the service."

Changes include elimination of the "Letter Report" and 90 days as the minimum rated period for field grade officers in the same principle assignment.

The new form requires specific evaluations not included in the current form. These rating sections are: performance of duty factors; promotion, schooling and assignment potential; and overall value to the service.

Personnel officials said rating officers frequently commented on the aspects of performance and potential of an officer but had not previously been required to assign a specific rating as required with the new form.

The present form has been in use since Sept. 30, 1961.

NAVY VISITS AIR FORCE—Adm. E. P. Holmes, Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, inspects the honor guard during a recent visit to Tactical Air Command headquarters, Langley AFB, Va. Adm. Holmes visited the air base for an orientation briefing on TAC and support operations in Southeast Asia. Accompanying the admiral is Air Force Capt. L. S. Bodony, Honor Guard Commander.

Defense Dept. Supports Legislation To Extend Leave Accrual in Combat

Legislation which would allow military personnel serving overseas in hostile activity areas to accumulate leave up to 90 days, instead of the 60-day maximum, is being supported by Department of Defense.

A DOD witness told a House Armed Service Subcommittee in early October there is a need for such relief authority because conditions prevent many career force veterans from taking leave prior to Southeast Asia assignment. It results in their being forced to accrue leave past the 60-day point.

The witness stressed, however, that such relief for a leave overage is a one-year proposition. The excess must be used by the end of the following fiscal year in which it was earned.

The witness also emphasized there is no change in DOD's leave policy—that of encouraging personnel to take 30 days of leave as it is accrued each year.

DOD recommended to the Congressional group that eligibility for the special 90-day accrual be defined as 120 or more days continuous service in a "hostile fire pay" area on or after June 30, 1966.

Washington Memos

FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSES are now available to Vietnam returnees at Ft. Gordon's Army Hospital Specialized Treatment Center. Even bedridden patients may receive instruction in French and Spanish during their convalescence.

ONE-YEAR LIMITATION for in absentia registration for certain Air Force Institute of Technology students has been waived by Air Force Headquarters. Because of increased Air Force commitment to Vietnam, new policy will allow officers to enroll in absentia to complete their thesis or dissertation in an academic term which begins no later than one year after individual returns from Southeast Asia.

DAIRY PROCESSING PLANT has been opened at Marine Corps base at Chu Lai, Vietnam. Plant is similar to one located in Da Nang which produces daily 20,000 gallons of milk, 2,000 gallons of ice cream and 3,000 pounds of cottage cheese from dehydrated ingredients shipped from U.S.

LASER "GUNS" THAT simulate heavy tank cannons permit training Army tank gunners in less time. They fire brief, brilliant light along the path a 105mm shell would take. Army estimates training time is cut as much as 20 per cent.

TESTING OF FOUR prefabricated dormitories is going to be done by airmen of the 560th Civil Engineering Sq., Eglin AFB, Fla. They will erect, maintain and live in the two-story high dorms for a year. The buildings can be disassembled, moved and used again. One model is fiberglass with a plywood interior. The other is manufactured from kraft paper sandwiched between aluminum sheets.

NAVAL SHIP SYSTEMS Command is conducting laboratory tests of a full-scale model of sewage treatment system specifically designed for military ships with large crews. A prototype of system is scheduled for operational testing in fleet in January. Final evaluation is expected by middle of 1969.

ARMY IS TESTING new tent designed for medical treatment centers and operating rooms in forward support areas. Tent can be set up in six minutes and is carried by one man. Tests aim for a 24-pound tent, including poles.

AIR RESERVE FORCES recorded a 7,155 gain in officer and airmen strength during FY 67 with Air National Guard receiving slightly more than half of the increase. As of June 30, total Air Force Reserve personnel was 494,675 and the Air National Guard 83,758.

SOME ELIGIBILITY requirements outlined in BUPERSINST 1120.18M for Navy's warrant officer program have been modified for fiscal year 1968. Program is now open for those 23 through 39 years of age if E-6 or above with 6 to 20 years active service.

ARMY MISSILE COMMAND at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., has completed successful tests on guided flight program for Chaparral air defense system. Chaparral is an adaptation of Sidewinder 1-C air-to-air missile system to ground-to-air configuration for defense against low and medium flying aircraft in forward areas.

NEW OPERATING AGENCY designed to develop future logistics systems was activated Oct. 1, by Air Force Logistics Command. Gen. Thomas P. Gerrity, AFLC Commander, announced establishment of Advanced Logistics Systems Center and named Brig. Gen. Frederick E. Morris as unit's Commanding Officer. New organization was created as major step forward in logistics management, utilizing new concepts in logistics systems and new technology in computers, communications, and transportation.

NAVY RADM. Ben B. Pickett has relieved RAdm. Turner F. Caldwell Jr., as Deputy Chief of Staff, U. S. Atlantic Fleet. Adm. Turner had been Inspector General of Atlantic Fleet, while Adm. Caldwell has been transferred to the Pentagon where he will serve as Director, Office of Antisubmarine Warfare.

TWO CONTRACTS totaling $7.8 million have been awarded to Raytheon Co., by Army Electronics and Naval Air Systems Commands. Contracts include $4.9 million for communications equipment for Army and $2.9 million incremental funding for research and development of Sparrow AIM-74 missile system.

MACKAY TROPHY for 1966 has been presented to Air Force Lt. Col. Albert R. Howarth for "courage and airmanship" when his A-26 aircraft became disabled on a combat mission in Southeast Asia.

ESTIMATED 500 NAVAL officers, with civilian scientists and technicians, participated in three-day symposium on classification of active sonar contacts at Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif.

CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS-Electronics (CC-E) has been redesignated Assistant Chief of Staff for Communications-Electronics (ACSC-E), and now reports directly to Army Chief of Staff. Present CC-E, Maj. Gen. Walter E. Lotz Jr., has been named first ACSC-E. Redesignation is result of Army study which recommended elevation of communications staff function to higher level in order to improve agency's capability to coordinate and manage expanding communications function within Army and other agencies and commands.

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Army Approves Special Orders For Use in Civil Disturbances

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Harold K. Johnson has approved eight special orders for use by active Army and Army National Guard personnel in Federal status engaged in civil disturbance situations.

The orders include proper military bearing and appearance, cooperation with civilians, and letting civilian police make arrests when possible.

Special emphasis was put on another special order:

"I will not load or fire my weapon except when authorized by an officer in person, when authorized in advance by an officer under certain specific conditions, or when required to save my life."

Intent of the special orders "is to strike an appropriate balance in the use of force, so as to avoid indiscriminate firing in civil disturbance situations which carries with it the possibility of injuring innocent people, and to provide that there is no degradation of the individual's right of self-defense."

The Army is also expanding civil disturbance and riot control training for Army National Guard units.

Emphasized techniques include: Methods of detecting, neutralizing or apprehending snipers; procedures of detention of suspected lawbreakers; use of area saturation patrols by military forces and police to suppress looting and vandalism; day and night reconnaissance; and instruction in use of firefighting equipment so military personnel can help civilian firemen if necessary.

AF Names 4,781 Officers For FY68 Promotion to Major

Air Force has released the names of 4,781 officers selected for temporary promotion to major during Fiscal Year 1968.

The first increment of 531 occurs Oct. 20, with eight additional increments to follow. The last increment is scheduled for June.

Of the total, 4,419 are in the primary zone. First time eligibles promoted totaled 3,255 and 1,164 were first time passovers. Also, 173 were selected who had been passed over at least twice. In the secondary zone, 189 were promoted.

The total includes both line and component eligibles.

Officials said the quota for line, medical service corps, biomedical science corps and nurse corps was established to provide an overall 85 percent selection opportunity for those competing in the primary zone for the first and second time. The "best qualified" method was used for these selections, and the "fully qualified" system for selection of chaplains and officers of the medical, dental and veterinary corps.

LEGION OF MERIT—Col. John T. Evans, Deputy Commanding Officer, Army Korea Procurement Agency, receives the Legion of Merit from Gen. Charles H. Bonesteel III, Commanding General, Eighth Army. Col. Evans was cited for meritorious service from September 1960 to July 1967 while serving as Inspector General, Army Materiel Command, Inspector General Field Office, Chicago, Ill.

DOD Changes Regulations On Personal Finance Reports

Department of Defense has "materially reduced" the number of military and civilian officials who must report their personal finances each year.

The reduction came when DOD rescinded standards of conduct regulations that required all general officers and GS-16 and higher "super-grades" to make financial reports regardless of duty assignment.

It was also brought about by limiting the reporting requirement to officers and officials whose duties directly involve government decisions in administering or monitoring contracts, awards and subsidies.

While an August revision of DOD Directive 5500.7 lowered the requirement for reporting personal finances to the lieutenant colonel and GS-13 level, it exempted those who only make recommendations in the decision-making process.

Executive schedule employees and members of armed services contract appeal boards must still file end-of-fiscal year personal financial statements, plus changes, as they occur, in supplementary statements.

DOD has asked all components and the services to review each job to see if it meets the new criteria, generally in the contracting, procurement, auditing, and non-federal enterprise decision-making fields.

Purpose of the rewritten directive is to confine filing of DD Form 1555 "Confidential Statement of Employment and Financial Interests" to personnel who could face a conflict-of-interest situation.

FACILITY OF THE YEAR—Lt. Gen. Seth J. McKee, Commander U. S. Forces Japan (left), presents the Air Traffic Control Facility of the Year trophy to Col. Paul P. Douglas Jr., Commander, 41st Air Division, Yokota AB (center), and Lt. Col. Stanley E. Rodby, Commander, 2127th Communications Squadron, stationed at Yokota. The base facility is responsible for movement of all aircraft using instruments within a 10,500-mile area. The trophy was awarded for fiscal 1967.

MACV Commander Rules On RVN Entry Requests

Because of current combat conditions in Vietnam, the commander of the U.S. Military Assistance Command in Vietnam said requests for entry into that nation from outside areas solely for the purpose of marriage, obtaining concurrent travel or exit documents will not be approved.

Also, marriage applications from personnel in Vietnam who have insufficient time to complete processing for marriage (normally six weeks) before rotation will not be approved. Neither will personnel be retained in Vietnam beyond prescribed tours because of problems involving emigration or immigration of spouses, nor will extensions of tours in Vietnam be authorized for the purpose of marriage.

Approval authority for requests to enter Vietnam in a leave status is COMUSMACV.

Air Force Offers Trophies For Top Safety Programs

Air Force major commands and individual personnel will be recognized by the Secretary of the Air Force and the Air Force Chief of Staff for safety programs—best over-all accident prevention programs of the year.

The announcement of the program, to begin next year, was made by the Air Force Directorate of Aerospace Safety at Norton AFB, Calif.

Aerospace Director Brig. Gen. Frank K. Everest Jr., said the Secretary's award will be the ultimate in the program; that it will consist of two silver trophies, one for major commands having strength of 15,000 or more personnel and the other for smaller commands.

The Chief of Staff award will honor the AF individual making the greatest contribution to the AF safety effort. A miniature replica and citation will go to the winner, with the large trophy to be permanently displayed in the Pentagon.

Strike Command Schedules Joint Forces Demonstration

The U.S. Strike Command will conduct its three-day semiannual Army-Air Force Joint Forces demonstration Oct. 18-20, at Ft. Bragg and Pope AFB, N.C.

Titled "Brass Strike I," the demonstration will be viewed by more than 1,500 U.S. and foreign military and civilian visitors.

Under the direction of Gen. T. J. Conway, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Strike Command, Brass Strike I will be commanded by Air Force Brig. Gen. Howard Kreidler, Deputy Director of Operations, J-3, U.S. Strike Command, MacDill AFB, Fla.

Brass Strike I will show in action the latest Army and Air Force weapons and weapons systems, equipment and combat techniques developed for joint forces operations. Among the highlights will be a joint Army-Air Force attack on fortified positions by a two-company force with supporting artillery, armed helicopters and tactical fighter sweeps.

Participating units in the demonstration will be elements of Headquarters, U.S. Strike Command, Military Airlift Command, Tactical Air Command, Strategic Air Command, XVIII Airborne Corps, and Army's John F. Kennedy Center for Special Warfare, Ft. Bragg, N.C.

Army Schedules Changes In Overseas Travel Rules

Travel requirements in effect since last April for certain Army personnel are to be changed Dec. 1, 1967, the Army announced.

Warrant Officers 1, 2 and 3, and company grade officers will not be port called to an overseas replacement station for processing before continuing overseas, said an Army official. They will travel in the same category as E-9s, CWO-4s and all field grade officers moving overseas in an unaccompanied status.

These provisions, however, do not apply to newly commissioned officers

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